

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-13 CU-02 EB-07 CIAE-00

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/091 W

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5831

INFO CINCPAC

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PGOV, CH, US, TW

SUBJ: LOCAL PAPER DISCUSSES POSSIBLE RESULTS OF SECRETARY'S

CHINA TRIP

1. SUMMARY. A LOCAL PRC-CONTROLLED PAPER HAS INFORMED ITS READERS THAT WHILE THERE WILL PROBABLY BE NO NORMALIZATION OF U.S.-PRC RELATIONS DURING SECRETARY VANCE'S AUGUST VISIT TO PEKING, EXPANDED BILATERAL TRADE AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES WILL BE A STEP FORWARD. END SUMMARY.

2. A LITTLE KNOWN, SMALL CIRCULATION LOCAL WEEKLY, "CHOU MO PAO" (WEEKEND) WHICH IS REPORTEDLY CONTROLLED BY NCNA, CARRIED AN ARTICLE IN ITS JULY 16 ISSUE ENTITLED "CARTER: HAVE YOU MADE A DECISION?", WHICH DISCUSSES SINO-U.S. RELATIONS. THE ARTICLE USES VERYSIMPLE CHARACTERS AND TERMINOLOGY AND APPEARS TO BE AIMED AT INFORMING THE COMMON WORKER OR STUDENT IN HONG  
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KONG OF THE STATUS OF THE SINO-U.S. QUESTION AND WHAT TO EXPECT. DESPITE ITS SIMPLE STYLE, THE ARTICLE INDICATES ITS AUTHOR IS FULLY INFORMED ON THE LATEST CHINESE THINKING.

3. THE ARTICLE REITERATES THAT VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN'S COMMENTS TO ADMIRAL ZUMWALT ON JULY 4 CONSTITUTED CHINA'S OFFICIAL REPLY TO THE SECRETARY'S JUNE 29 SPEECH AND THE

PRESIDENT'S JUNE 30 REMARKS ON NORMALIZATION. THE JULY 5 EXPANSION OF THE JULY 4 NCNA ACCOUNT OF THE LI-ZUMWALT MEETING WAS EXPLAINED AS A MEANS OF MAKING SURE THE U.S. READERS OF NCNA ENGLISH WERE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR ABOUT ITS MEANING. THE ARTICLE TERMED THE U.S. STATEMENTS ABOUT TAIWAN AN "UNACCEPTABLE PRECONDITION", ADDING THAT ALTHOUGH THE U.S. BELIEVES CHINA IS ANXIOUS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND WILL THUS GIVE UP OR MODIFY ITS PRINCIPLES, IT IS MERELY INDULGING IN "WRONG AND WISHFUL THINKING". THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT INTENSIFIED SOVIET THREATS AND THE CHANGING WORLD SITUATION IS FORCING U.S. LEADERS ACTIVELY TO CONSIDER SINO-U.S. NORMALIZATION, BUT THAT THE U.S. CONTINUES TO "HESITATE" MAKING A FINAL DECISION. THIS "HESITATION" IS ATTRIBUTED TO U.S. UNWILLINGNESS TO GIVE UP ITS INTERESTS IN TAIWAN, THE ADMINISTRATION'S WORRY ABOUT THE "EXTREME RIGHT-WING" IN CONGRESS WHO "ARE AGENTS FOR GROUPS WITH LARGE INVESTMENTS IN TAIWAN", AND FEARS THAT ACCEPTING CHINA'S THREE PRINCIPLES WILL AFFECT OTHER U.S. "LACKEYS". THE ADMINISTRATION IS ALSO DESCRIBED AS HOLDING BACK ON IMPLEMENTING NORMALIZATION DUE TO CONGRESSIONAL PROBLEMS ON SEVERAL OTHER MAJOR ISSUES -- THE B-1, KOREAN WITHDRAWAL AND SALT -- WHICH WILL BE RAISED THIS FALL. THE ARTICLE ADDS THAT THE U.S. IS TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO PROTECT TAIWAN AS IT MOVES AHEAD WITH NORMALIZATION SO AS TO DIFFUSE CONGRESSIONAL AND DOMESTIC OPPOSITION.

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4. IN A DISCUSSION OF THE SECRETARY'S AUGUST TRIP TO PEKING, THE PAPER STATES THAT "THERE PROBABLY CANNOT BE A NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS DUE TO THE U.S. NOT HAVING MADE A DECISION". THE ARTICLE SUGGESTS, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WILL BE AN EXPANSION OF BILATERAL TRADE AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES SO THAT SECRETARY VANCE "WILL NOT RETURN EMPTY-HANDED".

5. COMMENT. THE ARTICLE'S MESSAGE TO ITS READERS IS NOT TO EXPECT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S TRIP. IT REAFFIRMS PREVIOUSLY STATED CHINESE VIEWS AND POSITIONS ON TAIWAN, BUT DOES SO IN A LOW-KEY, NON-POLEMICAL STYLE. IT IS ALSO THE FIRST TIME TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THAT A CHINESE ARTICLE HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THE ADMINISTRATION HAS DIFFICULTIES WITH CONGRESS AND OTHER INTEREST GROUPS IN THE U.S. OVER ITS MOVES TOWARDS NORMALIZATION.

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## Message Attributes

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